(a) the total number of LPG connections issued in Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) the total number of LPG connections issued in the State during 1994-95 till date; and

(c) the number of LPG connections proposed to be issued during the remaining period of the financial year and also the plans to release the same during the next financial year in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The total number of LPG connections released in Gujarat during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (April—October, 1994) is as under:

	Number of LPG connections released
1992-93	38385
1993-94 . . .	57475
1994-95 . . . . (April-October, 1994)	76112

(c) 28635 more new connections are proposed to be released during November, 1994 to March, 1995 in the State of Gujarat. The target for the year 1995-96 for new connections to be released in the country has not yet been finalised.

Grant of Full Statehood to Delhi

*18. O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has since received recommendations from Delhi Goverment for the grant of full statehood to Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) A resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly of National Capital Territory of Delhi has been received recommending grant of statehood to Delhi. The question of an appropriate structure for the admiistration of the National Capital was considered by the Committee on Reorganisation of Delhi Set-up, commonly known as Balakrishnan Committee. After the most careful consideration of the matter, the Committee concluded "that it will not be in the National interest and in the interest of Delhi itself, to restructure the set-up in Delhi as a full fledged constituent State of the Union". In view of this reocmmedaion and since the Central Government has to discharge special duties and responsibilities in relation to the National Capital, it was not considered feasible in larger national interest to grant Delhi full fledged statehood.

Supply of Medicines to the Patients Suffering from Malaria in Rajasthan

*19. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have supplied sufficient drugs to be distributed to the people affected by malaria in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn into the allegations that such drugs have reached to the hands of corrupt officials forcing the poor patients to buy them from the market;

(d) if so, the details thereof and what steps were taken by the Central Government to ensure that the medicines are reached to the people in the affected areas free of cost?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following drugs have been supplied:

Chloroquine tabs.	245 lakhs
Primaquine tabs.	41.31 lakhs
Quinine Injection	30,000 ampules
Ayush-64 (Ayurvedic Drug)	60,000 doses

(c) and (d) No such reports have been received from the Government of Rajasthan. The drugs were supplied to the State Govt. with insructions to make them available at village level through drug distribution centres.

Former Pakistan Premier's Statement on Terrorism in India

*20. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased state:

(a) whether Government's attention was drawn to the statement of the former Prime Minister of Pakistan Mr. Nawaz Shariff about the large use of money raised through drug-deals for foreign covert operations, including perpetration of terrorism by Pakistan in Kashmir and elsewhere in India, and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any independent steps to confirm the facts and if so, the details in this regard and the outcome of the probe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has repeatedly asserted that Pakistan is perpetrating cross-border terrorism which is financed from numerous sources including drug-money.

Degradation of Forest Areas in the Country

21. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how much forest areas have been degraded so far in the country State-wise details thereof; and

(b) how much of the said area has been regenerated through afforestation/reforestation and eco-development programmes, area-wise details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The State-wise details of the forest areas including degraded forest areas, as per the State of Forest Report 1993 brought out by Forest Survey of India, are given at statement I.

(b) The details of the change in forest cover, including degraded forest areas regenerated through afforestation/reforestation and eco-development programmes as per the State of Forest Report, 1993 brought out by Forest Survey of India, are given at Statement II.

Statement-I

(Sq. km.)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Dense Forest (Crown density) above 40%)	Open Forest (Crown density) 10% to 40%)	Man-grove	Total Forest coverd area
1		3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	25,008	21,8701	378	47,256
2	Arunachal Pradesh	54,510	14,151	..	68,661
3	Assam	15,998	8,510	..	24,508
4	Bihar	13,172	13,415	..	26,587